09/574,982   00AB040

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the subject patent application in the following manner:

Please cancel claims 1-22 and add new claims 23-44.

1-22 (Cancelled)

23.   (New) A system that facilitates generating a dynamic output in a state machine,
comprising:

an input component that receives communication, the communication is related to at least
one indicator; and

a logic function component that utilizes the indicator to selectively provide an output
signal.

24.   (New) The system of claim 23, the output signal is transmitted to at least one of a
process, a machine, a backplane, a bus and a network.

25.   (New) The system of claim 23, further comprising a memory component that stores data
that is operatively coupled to at least one of the network interface component, the logic function
component and the output component.

26.   (New) The system of claim 25, further comprising a processing component that executes
instructions within the memory that is operatively coupled to at least one of the input component,
the network interface component, the output component and the memory component.

27.   (New) The system of claim 26, the processor updates the indicator according to the
communication.

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28.   (New) The system of claim 23, further comprising a closed loop component that receives information from the input component that is operatively coupled to the output component to provide feedback control.

29.   (New) The system of claim 23, further comprising a configuration tool that creates an association between the logic function and the at least one indicator.

30.   (New) The system of claim 29, the configuration tool further comprising an intelligence component employed to automatically determine an association between the logic function and the at least one indicator.

31.   (New) The system of claim 29, the configuration tool is one of a computer, a workstation, a handheld PC, a tablet PC, a personal digital assistant and a cell phone.

32.   (New) The system of claim 23, the logic function component is associated with at least one function block.

33.   (New) The system of claim 32, the function block is one of a Boolean operator, a flip-flop, a counter, a timer and an analog function.

34.   (New) The system of claim 23, the indicator is at least one of a message connection health indicator, an I/O error indicator, a run/idle indicator, a network error indicator, an I/O point fault indicator, a hardware input indicator, a hardware output indicator, an I/O data indicator, and an output device status indicator.

35.   (New) The system of claim 23, the input component further comprises a message buffer component employed to store at least one message and is operatively coupled to at least one of the input component and the logic function component.

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36.   (New) A method to provide a variable output related to received information, comprising:

accepting an input;

transmitting the input to a logic function, the logic function contains at least one function block;

associating the input with the at least one function block; and

providing an output based at least in part upon the input and the logic function.

37.   (New) The method of claim 36, further comprising selecting a function block based at least in part upon the input received.

38.   (New) The method of claim 36, further comprising associating the input with at least one function block *via* a configuration component.

39.   (New) The method of claim 36, further comprising receiving the output from the logic function and transmitting the output *via* an output component.

40.   (New) The method of claim 36, the input is received from an external source on one of a periodic basis, a continuous basis and a one-time basis.

41.   (New) The method of claim 36, the input is at least one of a status indicator and an event indicator.

42.   (New) The method of claim 41, the indicator is at least one of a message connection health indicator, an I/O error indicator, a run/idle indicator, a network error indicator, an I/O point fault indicator, a hardware input indicator, a hardware output indicator, an I/O data indicator, and an output device status indicator.

43.   (New) The method of claim 37, the function block is one of a Boolean operator, a flip-flop, a counter, a timer and an analog function.

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44.   (New) A system that provides an output, comprising:

means for receiving information regarding associated components;

means for determining the status of the associated components;

means for selecting an output based on the information received; and

means for broadcasting an output signal from an output component.

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